

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

5 A potent peptide inhibitor (SuperSog) of TGF- β family growth factor signalling, peptide variants thereof and nucleotide coding sequences therefor are provided by the invention. The Super-Sog peptide comprises a fragment of the *Drosophila short gastrulation (Sog)* gene which includes the CR-1 cysteine-rich repeat of *Sog*. Methods and compositions for use of Super-Sog in therapeutic and diagnostic applications are also provided.